tariff liberalization programme. The volume of trade, between the two countries is, therefore, expected to grow further, but cannot be quantified at this stage.

**Modern Tobacco Barns**

750. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to help tobacco farmers build tobacco barns to reduce fuel consumption;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that very little financial help is being given to farmers presently for this matter;

(c) what steps will be taken by Government to divert some of the huge revenues collected on Virginia tobacco products to help the Virginia tobacco farmers; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to encourage farmers develop and build modern facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) As a part of fuel conservation measures, the Tobacco Board is implementing the following schemes for modernization of barns:

i. Subsidizing barn installation; and

ii. Subsidizing replacing the traditional furnaces with venture furnaces.

Under the schemes the Tobacco Board provides, a subsidy of Rs 2000/- for fixing venture furnaces and Rs.1000/- for insulation of barns. A subsidy of Rs.1800/- for barn insulation and Rs 1000/- for fixing barn is also extended by M/s ITC Ltd.

**Role of Tobacco Board**

751. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tobacco Board is restricting the quantity of tobacco grown in various States;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the Tobacco Board not helping tobacco farmers;